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governor, and Sam Houston was made commander-in-chief." Smith and Houston were chosen to their respective offices by the Consultation in November, 1835, and not in 1833, as the book would lead one to believe. The fact that in the same paragraph it is stated that San Antonio was taken December 10, 1835, does not remove the obscurity in dates.

Again, on page 147, the author says the Texas Declaration of Independence was issued December 20, 1835, at Goliad. Nowhere does he mention the Declaration of Independence issued at Washington on the Brazos March 2, 1836. The reader of the book must bear in mind that up until March 2, 1836, the Texans were fighting for Mexico—fighting to preserve the Constitution of 1824—against Santa Anna's usurping power. As none of the members of the Alamo garrison knew independence had been declared, they did not know they were dying that an independent republic might rise from their ashes.

JAMES C. OSLIN.

Martin Ruter. By Ernest Ashton Smith. (Cincinnati: Methodist Book Concern, 1915. Cl. 18mo. Pp. 127. Portrait. 25 cents, net.)

In the pages of this little book is sketched briefly, in broad outline, the character of this pioneer Methodist missionary. Very little is added to the information concerning Ruter's work in Texas, contained in Dr. Cody's article in the *Texas Methodist Historical Quarterly*, I, 7-38, but Professor Smith's chapters on "The youthful itinerant," "The self-taught scholar," "The educational pioneer," "The editor and author," and "The president of Allegheny," give one a perspective that lends a new interest to Ruter's work. The cause of the Texans appealed so strongly to him that in May, 1836, while president of Allegheny College, he tendered to the General Conference his services as a missionary to that country. He crossed the Sabine November 23, 1837, and was claimed by death at Washington on the Brazos May 16, 1838. During the brief period of his ministry in Texas he labored incessantly for the cause of the gospel and of education.

W.